

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 212098
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 PM-05 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 DHA-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00
/063 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SE:JRRATIGAN:VSS
APPROVED BY C:MNIMETZ
EUR/SE:NCLEDSKY
EUR:REBARBOUR
-----093055 031440Z /73

O P 031435Z SEP 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 212098

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PORG, GR, CY, US

SUBJECT: GREEK AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON COUNSELOR

1. GREEK AMBASSADOR ALEXANDRAKIS CALLED AT HIS INITIATIVE ON COUNSELOR NIMETZ AUG 29, TO EXPRESS HIS GOVERNMENT'S DEEP CONCERN AT "ARBITRARY, UNILATERAL ACTION" OF TURKISH CYPRIOTS IN COLONIZING VAROSHA. ALEXANDRAKIS SAID THESE TURKISH CYPRIOT ACTIONS COULD SO POISON ATMOSPHERE THAT RESUMPTION OF INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS WOULD BECOME IMPOSSIBLE. GREEK GOVERNMENT THEREFORE REGARDED TURKISH CYPRIOT ACTION AS VERY SERIOUS, AKIN TO ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS ON THE WEST BANK, AND HOPED US WOULD APPLY THE SAME STANDARDS IN JUDGING BOTH SITUATIONS.

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PAGE 02 STATE 212098

2. NIMETZ ACCEPTED GREEK EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN, BUT AT SAME TIME EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT AT CYPRIOT DECISION TO TAKE MATTER TO SECURITY COUNCIL WITHOUT PRIOR CONSULTATION WITH US OR OTHER WESTERN POWER. HIGHLIGHTING ISSUE IN UN FORUM MIGHT PUSH TURKEY INTO THE KIND OF PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR DENKTASH WHICH IT HAD NOT GIVEN HERETOFORE.

NIMETZ SAID HE PLANNED TO DISCUSS MATTER DIRECTLY WITH
CYPRIOT FONMIN CHRISTOPHIDES AND OTHERS IN NEW YORK, AND
WOULD KEEP GREEK MISSION IN NEW YORK AND EMBASSY IN WASH-
INGTON APPRISED OF DEVELOPMENTS. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COLONIALISM, AMBASSADORS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 03-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE212098
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JRRATIGAN:VSS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770320-0347
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770998/aaaadevm.tel
Line Count: 66
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 343cfb4d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1388962
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GREEK AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON COUNSELOR
TAGS: PINT, PORG, GR, CY, US
To: ATHENS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/343cfb4d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009